

necessary data to award truly competitive contracts to small businesses in America is unacceptable.

My amendment would direct the Secretary of Defense to clarify existing, ambiguous terms in the U.S. Code as well as in DOD's acquisition regulations that, once corrected, will help the DOD access the data it needs to promote greater opportunity for small businesses to compete for maintenance service contracts and has the potential to save millions of taxpayer dollars.

Greater competition within the defense industry means more value for every hardworking taxpayer in America.

HONORING SOUTH ST. PAUL POLICE OFFICER LEO PAVLAK

(Ms. CRAIG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was proud to watch the House pass my bill naming the South St. Paul, Minnesota Post Office after fallen South St. Paul police officer Leo Pavlak.

In 1933, after only 4 months on the force and at just 38 years old, Officer Pavlak was shot and killed by the notorious Barker-Karpis gang while assisting in a payroll delivery. To this day, he is the only South St. Paul officer to have been killed in the line of duty.

In the 89 years since his death, Leo's children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren have continued building the impressive Pavlak legacy in law enforcement in our community.

Leo's son, Robert Leo Pavlak, Sr. was a St. Paul police officer. One of his grandsons, Robert, was a Ramsey County deputy, while another grandson, David, worked in St. Paul as a police officer.

And now Leo's great-grandson, Ryan, is following in those very footsteps.

So today, I applaud my colleagues in passing this bill to honor not only Leo's dedication and service but that of the entire Pavlak family.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Senate colleagues to pass this bill in a timely manner.

BIDENFLATION ENERGY CRISIS ONGOING

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week the average for a gallon of gas was shamefully \$1 more than when Biden took office. A gallon of diesel, fuel for trucks and ships, is nearly 50 percent higher.

Due to irresponsible energy policies of Biden and Democrats, inflation reached 40-year highs, and families are hurting. In the last year, one-third of households have reduced or skipped necessities like food and medicine to pay

energy bills, according to a LendingTree survey.

The National Energy Assistance Directors Association has said that household energy costs will be the highest in 15 years.

On Saturday, I was grateful to be on a codel warmly welcomed in Kiev by Ukrainians thankful for defensive weapons which last week stopped 85 percent of Putin's missiles and Iranian drones. Putin must be stopped from freezing Ukrainians to death as Stalin starved Ukrainians to death.

President Biden joined Turkish President Recep Erdogan and French President Macron pledging additional defensive weapons to courageous President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Sunday.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues moving from an Afghan safe haven to America.

HONORING CLAY PHILLIPS, CHIEF OF STAFF

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my longtime chief of staff, Clay Phillips, who is retiring at the end of this Congress. I thank him for his tremendous career of public service, including 16 years of service in the chief of staff role.

There are few people in the Tampa area who have not worked with Clay, and I am grateful for all the work that he has done to ensure that veterans receive the benefits that they have earned to ensure that our neighbors were able to stay in their house during the foreclosure crisis, all of his work on affordable healthcare, and for social justice.

He was also instrumental in Florida's new statue, the Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune statue that all Americans will enjoy seeing. She is the first African American in history to represent a State in the National Statuary Hall Collection.

He has always stood up for the voiceless, and as President Kennedy encouraged, let public service be a proud and lively career.

Clay's career was proud and lively. I am grateful he has provided selfless service, and I am grateful for his friendship and his devotion to our neighbors.

HONORING COACH MIKE LEACH

(Mr. GUEST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mississippi State University head football coach, Mike Leach, a man who left a substantial mark on the game of football and served as an inspiration for players and fans alike.

Coach Leach was, in a word, unconventional. The air raid offense, which he brought to college football, changed the game of football forever; but the sports world will not soon forget Coach Leach's unique personality that entertained everyone who had the opportunity to listen to his good-humored interview style and memorable one-liners.

I am thankful that Coach Leach chose Mississippi State University as his new home in 2020. The last three seasons with him at the helm have produced some of the most memorable football seasons in my lifetime.

Without a doubt, Coach Leach will be missed, and his impact on the game of football and Mississippi State University will prove to be timeless. We will continue to look back fondly on the memories that Coach Leach, the pirate, graciously left us with.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HOUSE DEMOCRATS

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we come to the final days of this session, I rise to celebrate the remarkable accomplishments House Democrats delivered for the American people during the 117th Congress.

While there are too many wins to mention, I would like to make sure everyone knows that we have always put people over politics.

Democrats will save 13 million Americans an average of \$800 a year on their health insurance premiums. Democrats helped create a total of 10.3 million jobs. Democrats lowered the national unemployment rate to 3.7 percent, which is nearly a 50-year low. Democrats delivered the largest 1-year reduction to the Federal deficit in American history, a reduction of \$1.5 trillion this year alone. Democrats passed many pro-woman bills—like the Women's Health Protection Act, which protects the woman's right to make her own healthcare decisions.

House Democrats did all this because we always put people over politics—we always have, and we always will.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CHARLES "RED" FARMER

(Mr. PALMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Charles "Red" Farmer. Mr. Farmer was born on October 15, 1932, in Nashville, Tennessee. He began racing cars in the 1940s and is still competing today at the age of 90, having recently raced on the dirt track at Talladega Short Track in Alabama.

Following military service in Korea, and having obtained his NASCAR license, Red competed in his first Daytona Beach race in 1953 and went on to